

**METHODS OF USING IMXP-888 AND IMXP-888 ANTAGONISTS**

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to the discovery that IMXP-888, a protein with homology to the FGF receptor family, is a proinflammatory cytokine. The invention encompasses therapeutic compositions of IMXP-888 polypeptides and antagonists, methods of use thereof, and screening methods.